

Village News

in Swindon Village

*Your local Newsletter sponsored by the
Parish Council and delivered by volunteers*

No. 470

February 2021



SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE AND GROUP

Please join Swindon Parish Council's Facebook page and group for local information and discussion. If you do not have access to the internet you could ask a friend or relative to join on your behalf and share highlights with you.

- **Swindon Parish Council Facebook Page.** A public page for local information and news from the Council:
<https://www.facebook.com/swindonparish>
- **Swindon Parish Community Group.** A private group for discussion of local issues, sharing and requesting help:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/swindonparishcommunitygroup>
- **Swindon Parish Council website.** For full information from the Parish Council:
<https://www.swindonparish.org.uk/>

If you receive this newsletter then you are living in Swindon Parish.

"If you have concerns about anti-social behaviour do not hesitate to contact the police.

Ring 101 (you may be charged for this call)
or email 101@gloucestershire.police.uk

Get an incident number and let the parish council know about it. If the police are not made aware of a problem **THERE ISN'T A PROBLEM**".

(Full minutes of all Parish Council meetings are available on the Parish website www.swindonparish.org.uk. They are also available on request from the Chairman.)

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

In the December issue of the Village News, in accordance with tradition, I wished you all a Happy New Year. Well, it hasn't got off to a great start. We must hope that the ending will be better than the beginning. The Parish Council continues to offer support to residents in need. Please remember **YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

Having previously been closed by the housing development Brockhampton Lane is now closed for level crossing works. It is not due to reopen until 5th April, so I assume the work (on the electrical wiring of the crossing) is of the major kind.

The Parish Council has agreed a budget for next year. The precept (our main source of income) comes from your Council Tax. Our precept is only a small part of the Council Tax, but the amount that you pay towards the parish will not increase this year. If the Council ends up with a shortfall it will come from our reserves.

Many of us are taking walks as part or all of our government-approved daily exercise. You may be interested in a website called Walking in England. It has walks in every county in the land. Since we are encouraged to stay local for our walks, I zoomed in on Gloucestershire. I was astonished to find over 80 walks in the Cheltenham area.

<https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/glos/cheltenham.php>

Instructions and printable maps are included, together with advice on the degree of difficulty.

Speaking of exercise, we needed to consider whether it was appropriate to continue delivering the Village News during lockdown. Many people will be struggling to get out or to have meaningful social contact. During these times the Village News is more important than ever. Our volunteer postmen and postwomen were not in the list of folks I thanked in my report before Christmas. I would like to correct that now. Their daily exercise regime now includes popping a copy of the Village News through every door. More quiet, unsung heroes making a contribution.

Not like the unspeakable person who pinched the gates from Dog Bark Lane. Several people advised me that the gates to Dog Bark Lane were missing. Ah, I thought. The County Council had taken them away for some maintenance action and had forgotten to tell us. But no, someone had indeed stolen them. What kind of person would do that? This is not a victimless crime. The County Council will have to replace them and they are funded by Council Tax. We are the victims.

Still in Manor Road, I was told before Christmas that a tree had fallen across the pavement in Manor Road. It turned out to be rooted in Spirax Sarco soil. I am grateful to the company for dealing with it promptly.

I was happy to enter into correspondence with someone who knew more about the village sign (referenced in the last article) than I did. This lady told me that the village sign was bought by the proceeds of an annual gymkhana that used to be held in Swindon Village. She was kind enough to share some of the history with me.

A gymkhana had been held back in the dark ages. It was discontinued when I was 7 years old and unaware of Swindon Village, let alone its gymkhana, so I bear no responsibility. In 1974 it was decided to resurrect it (the gymkhana, not Swindon Village). A small committee was formed and it was granted the use of a field by a local factory. Equipment was hired, silver cups were offered by local businesses and the committee then found another two or three cups already in the village. One may have been from the village flower show. Programmes were decided upon and printed and rosettes purchased. In those innocent days, before health and safety was front and centre, the committee had the foresight to arrange insurance cover and for a vet to be on call. The Echo was informed of the event and always sent a reporter (those were the days). The event was always given a good write up in the paper.

Village lads helped to prepare the site and erect jumps and the Wednesday Club ladies took on the catering to sustain everyone for the day. There were 70 entries for the first show, increasing each year to 134 by 1980. Initially profit went towards building the new village hall. Later profits bought the notice board outside the new hall and paid for a seat at the top of Rivelands Road. There were few changes for seven years except that a local farmer had given the gymkhana the use of a field when the original site was sold. A new committee took over in 1981. Soon after that gymkhanas in Swindon Village came to an end.

It is interesting to hear stories from Swindon's past. If you have anything you would like to share please get in touch.

Finally, best of luck to Karren (who may be known forever as "Karren with two Rs"), our new editor. It is probably a great time to take over, there being very little news!

Shaun Cullimore

Clerk to Swindon Parish Council

<https://swindonparish.org.uk>

Our Thank you to Karen...

We at the Parish Council wish to send our thanks to Karen Evans who has worked on, edited and managed the publication and distribution of the Village News since 2003.

As Karen pointed out in her farewell article in the December 2020 edition, the Village News is hosted by the Parish Council but it has been Karen who has been the driving force behind its production. Ensuring that articles are provided in time for proofreading and editing prior to them being included for printing does not describe the hard work, commitment and the time that is required to produce each edition.

Since joining the editorial team, Karen has been supported by a dedicated number of people over the years who have assisted her with the editing and preparation of this most valuable and informative community magazine. Karen's current co-editor is Stuart who has provided her with much needed assistance in the recent years. Karen has also been supported by her husband, Hugh, who has helped with the organizing the distribution of the Village News to ensure that every home in the Parish receives a copy.

Anyone who knows Karen will be aware of the many community organisations, committees and fund-raising activities in which she is involved within the parish. The Village News includes a wide range of information and reports on Parish events and individuals' news items and there is no doubt that it has become an 'institution'. We have been extremely fortunate and are very grateful that Karen has been able to find and maintain the energy and commitment to produce the Village News for seventeen years.

Karen is still maintaining her involvement with the church as well as other groups, committees and activities and we are pleased to note that she will also be delivering the Village News.

...and our thank you to Karren

The Parish Council should also like to thank Karren Parsons and her daughter Katie for stepping forward to take over, from Karen, the responsibility for the continuation of the Village News.

Peter Allen

Chair of Swindon Parish Council

Oxfam Clothing Recycling Bins

Many of us use the Oxfam clothing recycling bins in the car park at Sainsbury's. It has come to our attention that these bins are regularly full. We have been in touch with Oxfam and they say that they are doing their best to empty them regularly enough, but the pandemic gives them operational difficulties.



Please don't leave donations stacked against the bins

When the trucks make collections they simply take the bins away and leave the bags. It is our understanding that donations not contained in the bins will go to landfill.

There are other ways to recycle surplus clothing.

- *Clothing donations can be taken to the Swindon Road recycling centre*
- *Clothing donations can be placed in a bag inside your green recycling box.*

Trying to be better in 2021

Hello, I am your newest member of Swindon Village Parish Council, and a happy new year to you all! For a few years my family has resolved not to make new years' resolutions as such – each year we have picked an area of our environmental impact that we want to reduce, and spent the year working towards that. A few years ago, we picked waste – and challenged ourselves to only put our landfill wheelie out every other month (and actually, we didn't end up putting it out for a whole year). Have you noticed how much plastic packaging you probably have in your home? I just opened my fridge and I can see: yoghurt pots, cheese in bags, celery, spinach, greens all in bags, mayonnaise in a bottle, then in the cupboard there's bottles of ketchup, lids on jars of spices, packets of dried fruit... and this is a short list because I'm not physically in my kitchen right now as I have a cat on my lap and don't want to move. The point is, that it is really difficult for an individual to achieve a zero waste lifestyle within the system we currently inhabit – i.e. one where we work, have family or caring commitments, and supermarkets are a convenient necessity.

But, we are pretty lucky here in Cheltenham, compared to other places in the country, as we do have a decent kerbside service. It may seem annoying to have to sort out all our recycling, but this saves the council money and means that we can put all kinds of materials in for collection outside our homes. For example, a lot of people don't know that you can actually put textiles in your kerbside (see the previous note relating to donations at the clothes banks at Sainsbury's). You can also put in batteries and even small electrical items. So maybe you don't need to queue at the tip next time! For more information on how best to recycle your household waste, see the CBC Recycle Right webpage.

In the meantime, I'm sure there was a plastic tub of chocolates left over from Christmas somewhere, and I wonder if it's empty yet?

Cllr Lisa Whitaker

Firstly, we must start by thanking Karen for everything she has done for the Village News over the years. We're very grateful for her help and support with our first edition.

When we collected the back issues from Karen, she mentioned that she'd been thinking of new ways to brighten up the village News. We've also put our thinking caps on. We'll try out some things in the coming months. Please let us know if there is anything else you'd like to see.

The Village News has been important to me since we moved to the village in 1996 and I am so glad to have this opportunity to keep it going. I hope that it would have continued in digital form, but I prefer the paper format. It's a bit like a Kindle for me – I can completely see the benefit it brings, but for me nothing beats reading a proper book.

When our first daughter (and co-editor) Katie was born, the days passed with very little contact from the outside world whilst my husband Matt was at work. The arrival of the Village News was an event to be looked forward to. Once Katie was settled for her afternoon nap, I made a pot of tea and settled down to see what was going on outside my front door. I loved reading what the various clubs were up to. It was all a glimpse of the future of our little family – the playgroup, school and even WI. I'm not one to wish my life away, but it was an interesting distraction from normality.

I can't remember when Katie became interested in the Village News, but we'd giggle about Shaun's dry humour and Barry's amusing anecdotes. And so when she moved away for university, it seemed perfectly natural that it should find its way to York in the "care packages" that students like to receive. And now, four years later, Katie is back home and we are starting our new adventure as co-editors!

Karren (and Katie)

Introducing “Worth Celebrating”

With all that is going on at the moment we thought it would be great to celebrate the happy moments life brings. For this though we will need your help.

If you have something to share – a birthday, anniversary, funny story or just a message for the community then please let us know.

You can email us at village-news@swindonparish.org.uk, or just put a note through our door (we're at 29 Dark lane, next to the bus stop). Please don't worry if you haven't time to type it up, just scribble it on a piece of paper and include your name and telephone number so we can ask any questions.

Dark Lane Library

The library has become a somewhat fair-weather project. We have been inundated with donations and are ready to start again when the rain stops. We will only be able to put out a couple of boxes at a time, but we do have several shelves of books in reserve.

On a walk in Prestbury last month, we noticed another driveway library, but this one was housed in a repurposed rabbit hutch with a plastic covering. We were very envious! If anyone has the space to provide a “full time” sheltered library, we'd be happy to help rehome it.

We have a full list of books available. Should you know anybody who would like to receive books, please contact the editors. We would be more than happy to do a Covid safe doorstep delivery.

The Edge of Things

The past eleven months have taken all of us to places of which we would never have dreamt at Christmas 2019. The everyday but precious parts of our lives – which ironically seem all the more attractive when they have gone – seem almost beyond our touch. As Joni Mitchell sang in *Big Yellow Taxi* in 1970: “you don’t know what you’ve got ‘til it’s gone”. When Covid-19 hit us last Spring, I did some research into the great plagues and pestilences of the past. It seems that between the 1200s and the 1700s, roughly every 8-10 years most communities faced a plague of some kind. The population would have been swiftly infected, and the results catastrophic without the NHS or vaccination programmes. Our ancient local churches, including here at St Lawrence, would have seen funerals daily for weeks, and in some places the medieval graves can still be found close to the Church building, spanning outwards into the churchyards.

Mercifully, we are not in that league. Although excess deaths do tragically compare with those reached in the 1940s at the height of the Second World War.

What do Christians say to all of this? Many clergy in Cheltenham have taken several funerals where Covid-19 has been the cause. Some have been of loved ones who went into hospital for one issue, only to catch Covid-19 and die from it. This seems baffling, it seems unfair.

Living with loss is not something which sits remotely comfortably with modern life. Death is often impossible to talk about, and too often we are expected to ‘get over it’ and carry on after six weeks or so have passed. Strangely, it is with death and dying that we can begin to make sense of the Covid-19 onslaught. Let me explain. This month, we are at the start of the time of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday on the 17th February. Although Easter eggs arrived in Sainsburys on the 2nd January, Lent is the real build-up to Holy Week and Easter, with Easter Day falling early this year on Sunday 4th April. In these weeks up to Easter, we see Jesus losing everything. His inner core of disciples, his followers, even by Good Friday, his clothes. One of the most tender and touching moments in the Bible comes in John’s Gospel, chapter 6, when Jesus turns to his twelve disciples and asks them point blank: ‘And you – would you also like to leave?’

Despite all of this, after Easter Day, Jesus was seen very much alive and risen. He showed those who killed him, those who deserted him and those who loyally loved him that death's onslaught could not destroy him and that Good would triumph over Evil. Christians are sometimes known as 'Easter People', a lovely phrase meaning that in saying yes to Jesus, we share in the victory of life over death. At St Lawrence Church, this is the Good News we do our best to share. As Jesus once said with a smile: 'come and see!'

Revd Nick Bromfield

Team Rector of North Cheltenham

Enquiries about baptisms or weddings

If you would like to enquire about baptism (also called christening) or would like to book a wedding in St Lawrence's church, please contact the Team Office, which is open Monday to Friday from 9am until 12 noon. The office is based at St Nicolas' Church in Swindon Lane. Contact the Office on **244373** or **admin@northchelt.org.uk**

You can contact the clergy by email:

Revd. George Davis (Team Vicar) fr.georgedavis@hotmail.com

Revd. Nick Bromfield (Team Rector)

nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk or via the office.

Services and events in February

At the time of writing, it's not known if church will be allowed to open during the current lockdown.

Please check by phoning one of the Churchwardens, May or Hugh, or the church office. All the phone numbers are on the back cover.

3	Wednesday	10am – 12noon	Church open for private prayer
7	Sunday	10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion
10	Wednesday	10am – 12noon	Church open for private prayer
14	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer
17	Wednesday	10am – 12noon	Church open for private prayer
21	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer
24	Wednesday	10am – 12noon	Church open for private prayer
28	Sunday	9.15am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer

Times have been difficult for everyone over the past year. We wanted to find a way of reaching people and helping their spiritual and mental health. The Guardian reported that Google had a 50% increase in people searching "PRAYER" in March 2020. As the North Cheltenham Ministry Team we wanted to make it as easy as possible for people to access prayer. So if anyone is worried about anything or wants someone to pray with them then it is only a quick text away. Alexa or Google cannot replace real people praying for each other. We have people ready to pray with all who want it. It doesn't require any special app or learning new technology.

All you have to do is text the word **PRAY** to **88802** and someone will call you back. You could include a little message if you wanted or just text that one word, **PRAY**.

For more information please contact Revd Tom Cook
tom.cook@northchelt.org.uk

EVERYONE NEEDS A LITTLE
HELP SOMETIMES

TEXT
"PRAY"
TO
88802



Text 88802 and start your message with the word PRAY and someone will call you back.

For more info: tom.cook@northchelt.org.uk.

 North Cheltenham
Team Ministry

Christmas Angels



More than 150 hand-knitted angels winged their way across the parish taking Christmas blessings to homes from St. Lawrence's church. If you found one, we hope it brought you a little bit of Christmas joy.

The angels gathered in the beautifully -decorated church before setting off.

Karen Evans



The Children at Swindon Village Early Years continued to enjoy all the festivities of celebrating Christmas towards the end of the Autumn term. They created folders filled with some lovely crafts. We enjoyed creating a window for part of the school fundraising trail. We also managed to put on our Nativity performance which was videoed for parents to purchase. We were so proud of the children. On the last day of term, between party games and dance competitions, we enjoyed a visit from an (inhouse) Santa!

We have returned enthusiastically to start our spring term and have enjoyed exploring the changing weather. The children have explored ice which melted into cornflour and created gloop, painted ice and enjoyed playing with arctic animals. We enjoyed the snow - not enough to create any sculptures though. We have had faux snowball fights and also target practise with throwing snowballs into a bucket. The children came in from the cold to enjoy hot chocolate and warm fruity toast. They have created self portraits which have brightened up the walls in the village hall. Despite the cold, we have wrapped up to enjoy outside play with the mud kitchen, diggers in the sand and the scooters, hoops and beanbags. We have been looking at numeral recognition and this week are planning a numbered washing line. The children are also being encouraged and supported with matching quantities.

Most importantly of all, they are having fun, enjoying their friends which extends play and encourages communication. We are delighted to be back (let's hope it lasts).

We send our love to the community and look forward to being able to link outside of the group and welcome visitors back into the group - stay safe and look after each other.

Sally & Debbie
Swindon Village Early Years

First and most important I must give a big thanks to Karen for her wonderful work in producing the news over the last century or so and an equally big thank you to Karren who takes on the noble task. We would have been and will be lost without you both.

So, how to fill the space this month? First a few odd notes. A buzzard has been busy in the amenity area. Several people have seen it there and I got a very close view as I made my way back from Sainsbury's. It was ensconced in a tree very close to the Swilgate and I was close enough to make out the plumage before it left. Helen Ellis then sent me a superb photo of it. Rachel Hunter has also sent me a good photograph of a deer within the village. Most of the times I have undertaken a proper walk this year I have seen them in the locality.

Other than that there is not much to report and so I will tell you of my favourite walk and a great character associated with it. The walk is north of Bishops Cleeve from Alderton to Dumbleton. It starts at The Gardner's Arms pub from whence you set off north over Alderton and Dumbleton Hill. To start with there are a few fields, a little soggy at this time of year but where in Gloucestershire is not soggy unless you take to the hills. Soon the path sets upwards through a wood. Just as you enter the wood it is essential that you stop and look back at a great view of hills and fields and take pleasure that you live in a beautiful county. After a quarter of a mile the path levels off at the top of the hill where four paths intersect. There is a path off to the left which will take you through the woods around the western side of the hill with good views of Bredon Hill before turning along the north of the hill with fields and wood before you descend into Dumbleton from the west.

However, to keep the walk short, we will go straight on from the intersection of the paths and descend on a tarmac road through the parkland associated with Dumbleton Hall. There will be sheep. Say hello. Then the hall itself appears off to the left. It is now a hotel and conference centre. I have been to both a craft fair and wedding reception there. You pass the entrance on your left and the next stop is the church. Pass through the gates in the churchyard and in the second row of graves you see a row of three fairly ordinary grave stones. They belong to the Second Viscount Eyres Moncell, his sister Joan and her husband Patrick. When I first made that entrance only the first two graves were there but it was Joan's that caught my eye because she was Joan Leigh Fermor and I recognised that name. Patrick Leigh Fermor wrote three of my favourite books.

Now Patrick led an interesting life. At the age of eighteen in 1933 he decided rather than join the army he would set off and walk to Constantinople. And over the next three years that is what he did. It was not until the nineteen seventies that he decided to write up the walks. I read the first volume 'A Time of Gifts' and was enchanted. A few years later the second book, 'Between the Woods and the Water' came out and together we got to Hungary. I waited for the final volume but it never arrived. However, a bit of investigation revealed that Paddy did arrive in Constantinople in 1936 and there met up and lived with a Romanian Princess. They also lived some time in Romania and then spent time in Greece where Paddy learned the language.

Then the war arrived and so Paddy left the princess, came home and finally did join the Army. He was sent to Egypt and from there inserted into Crete to link up with and help the Greek resistance. He returned to Egypt but was then sent back to Crete with a small team who, with the help of the Greeks, stole the German General in charge and got him back to Egypt by submarine. The exploit was immortalised in a book called 'Ill Met by Moonlight' written by William Moss, another of Paddy's team. This was made into a film of the same name in 1957. Paddy was played by Dirk Bogarde.

After the war Paddy became pretty well the first modern British travel writer. He married Joan Monsell, who's family had for many years lived in Dumbleton Hall. They lived half their life in Greece and half in Dumbleton, though the family had relinquished the Hall by then.

About ten years ago I read Paddy's obituary in The Times and knew where he would be buried. Sure enough, shortly after there was a new grave alongside Joan's and a year later a headstone. There is much more to say but not room here.

Dumbleton itself is a small but very interesting village. The church is remarkable. The village is worth exploring for some magnificent houses before returning back through the park to Alderton. Once there was an excellent general store and coffee bar on Dumbleton sadly gone now but at least, when the world returns to normality there is the Gardner's Arms at Alderton.

Oh, and Paddy and I did get to Constantinople. A lady called Artemis Cooper obtained his near finished book and notes and completed it in his name. It is called 'The Broken Road'. She also wrote his autobiography.

Barry Simon

Quiz #1

Hello all! As lockdown goes on (and on... and on...) I'm sure we're all casting our minds back to life B.C (Before Covid). Along with hugs, travelling and going out to eat, one of the things that I miss most is The Pub - or more specifically, the pub quiz. So here is the first instalment of "Katie's quiz"! Each edition will likely have a theme (until I run out of ideas at least), so without further ado- here it goes:
"Things that have happened in February"

1. Which famous Irish writer was born on the 2nd of the month in 1882? His most famous works include "Dubliners" and "Ulysses".
2. The Six Nations rugby tournament usually starts in February; besides the home nations (England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales) which two other countries take part?
3. We call it Pancake Day, but what is "Fat Tuesday" called in France?
4. "Once had love and it was a gas" is the first line of which hit from February 1979 by which female-led American band?
5. On the 7th February 1587, which infamous monarch was beheaded at Fotheringay Castle, at the orders of her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I?
6. The 2014 Winter Olympics were held in which Russian city?
7. Which famous "coming of age" film was released on the 17th of the month 1985? It tells the story of five students who face detention on a Saturday morning.
8. On what day do we celebrate the life of a saint who supposedly married young couples against the will of the Holy Roman Emperor at the time? He was executed by the same Emperor (Claudius II) in 270 AD.
9. Which former Beatle had a number 1 for four weeks in 1970 with "My Sweet Lord"?
10. Which famous Hollywood "rebel", who was killed in a car crash at the age of 24, was born on the 8th February 1931 in Indiana?

Answers on page 21

It's a quiet time for most of us as we batten down the hatches and wait this particular storm out. The Covid-19 vaccines are now licensed and, at the time of writing, have been given to 3.5 million people which is more than have been reported to have been infected in the UK, and are being administered at approximately double the rate that people are testing positive. Sadly infection rates, hospitalisations and death rates are all higher than the original peak last spring. There is no doubt a long way to go, but at the current rate of vaccination there is a path out of this. Antivirals and better patient treatments are also on their way, so the multi-pronged progress of our scientific community should start to pay dividends as the year goes on. In the meantime, we hunker down, reduce our potential chains of transmission and do our little bits for the (war on Covid-19) effort.

At Swindon Village Hall, things continue much as before; the Early Years are still operating enabling lots of parents to continue to work. All other groups and activities are on hold until restrictions are eased once more.

There are still plans to further improve our Village Hall and next in line is for the fire doors to the patio to be replaced. The previous doors weren't ideal, with a lack of panic bars and a raised floor sill, which creates an obstruction for those with reduced mobility. The replacements will be more suitable, with double doors in the main hall, bringing in more fresh air when the weather improves. Other plans are afoot, but I'll wait and publish those once they come to fruition.

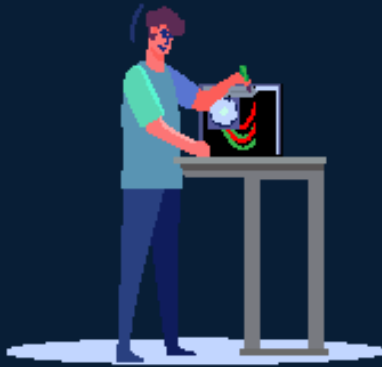
I hope everyone's keeping well and staying positive. The restrictions on everyday life have been tremendous, and the effects of the pandemic have been devastating to many, but the speed at which science has created a set of workable vaccines and treatments is nothing short of remarkable. Our weekly claps during the summer were, for me at least, a social connection with neighbours, as well as a means of showing gratitude to those who have put themselves in harm's way this past year.

Stay safe, keep practicing those hygiene and anti-transmission measures. Together, we'll get through this and I'll see some of you at Swindon Village Hall in the near future - it's a little premature to talk of village parties but don't forget the Roaring Twenties followed the 1918 Flu Pandemic!

All the best,
Ben



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- Lost or deleted data? Don't panic - it can be retrieved!

VERY REASONABLE RATES

**COVID-19 PROTECTION
PROCEDURES IN PLACE**

I CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH THE PROCUREMENT AND SET UP OF...

- Desktops, laptops (PC, Mac), tablets and smart phones (iOS and Android)
- Software / hardware installation
- Printer / scanner set up and networking
- Network configuration - routers, switches, WiFi, Quality of Service
- Help transferring data/settings to a new device
- Support with data backups and cloud storage
- Smart Home Devices
- Bespoke email accounts, domains and web hosting

WORKING FROM HOME?

- Assistance with any home working setup - monitors, docking stations, audio/video setup for Zoom/Skype/MS Teams etc, VPNs and more...

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01684 276200

Quiz answers

1. James Joyce
2. France and Italy
3. Mardi Gras
4. Blondie
5. Mary Queen of Scots
6. Sochi
7. The Breakfast Club
8. 14th February
9. George Harrison
10. James Dean

Advertise your business in
Village News

Monthly rates

Whole page £36

Half page £18

Quarter page £9

Contact the Editors

Village News is delivered to
900 homes in Swindon Village

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Footpaths	John Heathcott	527753
Acting Scout Leader & GSL	Stephen Smith (Sos)	693107
Cub Scout Leader	Rachel Smith (Chil)	693107
Beaver Leader		
Rainbow Guider	Hannah Butler	07464 784155
Village Hall Chair	Ben Williams	07971 608177 swindonvillagehall@gmail.com
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Jana Bridger	www.svhall.co.uk 07514 594351
Wednesday Club	Pauline Wright	693112
Play Group	(Playgroup hours)	690479
Winemakers' Secretary	Roy Harper	662861
School Headteacher	Geraint Mills	690016
Friends of the School	Caroline Williams Sarah Martin	chairfosvps@gmail.com
Art & Crafts Club	Lynne	07515 461876
Swindon Village Society	Barry Simon	521723
Mary Godwin Under 5s	(Playgroup hours)	263746
Marle Hill W.I.	Sara Jefferies	692500
Save The Countryside	Helen Wells	07770 986078

Please inform the editors of any changes to the contact details for village organisations.

Deadline for the next issue of the Village News is the 16th of this month.
Please send contributions to the editors via
Karren Parsons at 29 Dark Lane
or e-mail village-news@swindonparish.org.uk

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman	Cllr. Peter Allen	692933
	Cllr. Helen Wells	220875 or 07770 986078
	Cllr. Yvonne Pirso	515095
	Cllr. James Cornish	07950 196709
	Cllr. Lisa Whitaker	07715 470842
	Vacancy	
	Vacancy	
	Vacancy	
Clerk to the Council	Mr Shaun Cullimore	07833 089435 parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk
Cheltenham Borough Councillors	Cllr. Flo Clucas	255844
	Cllr. Bernard Fisher	07523 421012
County Councillor	Cllr. Bernard Fisher	07523 421012
Allotments Manager	Ian Brown	528683

Swindon Parish and Community Website: <https://swindonparish.org.uk>

ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH

Part of the North Cheltenham Team Ministry

Team Rector	Revd. Nick Bromfield	nick.bromfield@northchelt.org.uk
Team Vicar	Revd. George Davis	fr.georgedavis@hotmail.com 702890
Churchwardens	Hugh Evans	241678
	May Shurmer	241033
Tower Captain	Hugh Evans	241678
Organist	John Collins	511950
North Cheltenham Team Ministry Office St. Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, Cheltenham GL50 4PA		244373 admin@northchelt.org.uk

The office is open on Monday to Friday 9am to 12 noon. Outside these hours please leave a message on the answer phone.

The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors or the Parish Council